

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A railing system comprising:

a first longitudinal rail portion defining a channel into which pickets are insertable at spaced intervals, the channel being formed by a first longitudinal surface and a pair of spaced side walls extending inwardly toward each other adjacent the longitudinal surface as angled side wall portions, and then extending away from the first longitudinal surface as inset, planar side wall portions in a spaced, parallel configuration;

fasteners to pivotally connect the pickets to the channel insertable through pairs of openings in the inset planar side wall portions and through each picket to allow for orientation of each picket to a desired angle with respect to the first longitudinal rail portion, each of said fasteners comprising a rigid post having an enlarged head at one end to engage with an exterior of one of the planar side wall portions and a deformable locking body at an opposite end to engage with an exterior of the other of the planar side wall portions such that the rigid post is anchored between the side walls to pivotally support the picket; and

a second longitudinal rail portion having a second longitudinal surface and side walls fittable onto over the first longitudinal rail portion such that the side walls of the second longitudinal rail portion engage the first longitudinal rail portion to form an assembled rail member with the channel and fasteners concealed within the interior of the assembled rail member and the enlarged head and locking body of each fastener being accommodated in the region between the side walls of the second longitudinal rail portion and the inset side wall portions of the first longitudinal rail portion.

2. (currently amended) A railing system as claimed in claim 1 in which ~~the first longitudinal rail portion includes a lower~~ first longitudinal surface of the first longitudinal rail portion ~~includes with~~ a plurality of spaced openings to receive the pickets, the openings being dimensioned to accommodate the pickets over a range of angles to the first longitudinal rail portion.

Claims 3 – 6 (cancelled)

7 (Original). A tool as claimed in claim 1 in which the channel member is mountable to the body by a mounting arrangement comprising:

at least two anchor points formed on the body; and

a resilient band formed on the channel member adapted to be stretched about the anchor points to retain the channel member against the body.

8 (Original). A tool as claimed in claim 7 in which the body includes an arcuate surface extending between the at least two anchor points and the resilient channel member is mounted via the resilient band adjacent the arcuate surface which imparts an arcuate shape to the channel member over the length of the channel member.

9 (Original). A tool as claimed in claim 1 in which the body includes an arcuate surface and the resilient channel member is mounted adjacent the arcuate surface which imparts an arcuate shape to the channel member over the length of the channel member.

10 (Original). A tool as claimed in claim 1 in which the channel member is made from rubber.

11 (Original). A tool as claimed in claim 1 in which the channel member and the finishing portion are arranged on different regions of the body such that the finishing portion is positioned for use after the channel member delivers grout to the recess.

12 (Original). A tool as claimed in claim 1 in which the finishing portion comprises:

a compressing member to compress and shape the grout in the recess;

a scraping portion to channel grout into the recess and remove excess grout.

~~13.~~12. (currently amended) A tool as claimed in claim 11 in which the compressing member comprises a projection extending from the body having a distal end surface to compress and shape the grout in the recess on dragging of the finishing portion along the recess.

~~13~~14 (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim 11 in which the scraping portion includes a resilient surface to engage the tile.

~~14~~15 (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim ~~14~~ 3 including ridges formed on the resilient surface to direct grout toward the recess on dragging of the resilient surface along the recess.

~~15~~16 (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim ~~13-14~~ in which the resilient surface includes a generally V-shaped passage adapted to collect and direct grout into the recess.

~~16~~17 (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim ~~13-14~~ in which the resilient surface includes at least one opening to receive excess grout and direct the grout away from the resilient surface.

~~17~~18 (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim 11 in which the scraping portion comprises a resilient member adapted to be releasably mounted to the body, the resilient member having a resilient surface to direct grout to the recess, a generally V-shaped passage adapted to collect and direct grout in the recess and at least one opening therethrough to receive excess grout and direct the grout away from the resilient surface.

~~1819~~ (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim ~~187~~ in which the resilient member is formed with two openings adjacent the V-shaped passage

~~1920~~ (currently amended). A tool for delivering grout into a recess between adjacent tile surfaces comprising:

a body for gripping by the user;

an elongate, resilient channel member on the body adapted for retaining a line of grout and delivering the grout into the recess by aligning and pressing of the channel member over the recess.

~~2021~~ (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim ~~2019~~ including a finishing portion on the body for compressing and shaping the grout after delivery into the recess.

~~2122~~ (currently amended). A tool for compressing and shaping grout within a recess comprising:

a body;

a compressing member extending from the body to compress and shape the grout in the recess; and

a scraping portion mounted to the body to channel grout into the recess and remove excess grout.

~~2223~~ (currently amended). A tool as claimed in claim ~~21-22~~ including an elongate, resilient channel member on the body adapted for retaining a line of grout and delivering the grout into the recess by aligning and pressing of the channel member over the recess.